**Gauge conversion of Miraj-Latur section**

267. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have changed the original plan of 'broad gauge conversion of Miraj-Latur section' which was divided in four sections for implementation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when Government are likely to complete the broad-gauge conversion of Latur to Kurduwadi section; and

(d) whether any budget is allotted or spent on this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The firm target date has not yet been fixed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

**Replacement of Rail Lines**

268. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of rail lines, zone-wise, which need replacement; and

(b) the completed life of the old rail lines and the steps taken to replace them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The zone-wise break-up of rail lines which need replacement as on 1.4.1999 is as given below:

| Railway | Length of rail lines needing replacement (in km.) |
|---|---|
| Central | 1864 |
| Eastern | 1284 |
| Northern | 3867 |
| North Eastern | 856 |